

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)

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9. (Currently amended) A latch assembly, comprising:

a cable having a first cable end and a second cable end;

a remote cable pull mechanism connected to the first cable end;

a latch connected to the second cable end, wherein movement of the first cable end causes movement of the second cable end to release the latch; and

an intermediate cable pull mechanism disposed between the first and second ends, the intermediate cable pull mechanism having a manually-actuatable cable attachment and a housing having at least one open side to provide access to the cable attachment, wherein manual actuation of the intermediate cable pull mechanism cable attachment within the housing in an axial direction of the cable causes movement of the second cable end to release the latch.

10. (Previously Presented) The latch assembly of claim 9, further comprising sleeving having a first portion and a second portion, wherein the first portion covers the cable between the intermediate cable pull mechanism and the first cable end, wherein the second portion covers the cable between the intermediate cable pull mechanism and the second cable end, and wherein at least one end of the first or second portion proximate the intermediate cable pull mechanism abuts a respective abutment on a structure adjacent to the latch assembly.

11. (Previously Presented) The latch assembly of claim 10,

wherein an end of the first portion of the sleeving proximate the intermediate cable pull mechanism abuts a first abutment and an end of the second portion of the sleeving proximate the intermediate cable pull mechanism abuts a second abutment, and

wherein the first and second abutments are fixed relative to each other and the first and second abutments are fixed to an adjacent structure.

12. (Previously Presented) The latch assembly of claim 10 in which the latch is fixed relative to the adjacent structure.

13. (Previously Presented) The latch assembly of claim 10, wherein the intermediate cable pull mechanism is fixed relative to the adjacent structure.

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cont

14. (Previously Presented) The latch assembly of claim 10, wherein the latch is movable relative to the adjacent structure.

15. (Currently amended) A vehicle trunk assembly comprising:

- a cable having a first cable end and a second cable end;
- a remote cable pull mechanism connected to the first cable end;
- a latch connected to the second cable end, wherein movement of the first cable end causes movement of the second cable end to release the latch; and
- an intermediate cable pull mechanism disposed between the first and second ends, the intermediate cable pull mechanism having a manually-actuatable cable attachment and a housing having at least one open side to provide access to the cable attachment, wherein manual actuation of the ~~intermediate cable pull mechanism~~ cable attachment within the housing in an axial direction of the cable causes movement of the second cable end, wherein at least one of the intermediate cable pull mechanism and the remote cable pull mechanism is accessible from inside a trunk compartment of the vehicle to release the latch.

16. (Previously Presented) The vehicle trunk assembly as defined in claim 15 in which the latch is fixed relative to a trunk lid of the vehicle.

17. (Previously Presented) The vehicle trunk assembly as defined in claim 15 in which the latch is fixed relative to the vehicle body.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The latch assembly of claim 9, wherein the intermediate cable pull mechanism is disposed inside a compartment secured by the latch, and wherein the remote cable pull mechanism is disposed outside the compartment.

21. (Currently amended) The vehicle trunk assembly of claim 15, wherein the latch is a trunk latch inside a trunk compartment, and wherein at least one of the intermediate cable pull mechanism and the remote cable pull mechanism is disposed inside the trunk compartment.

22. (Previously Presented) The vehicle trunk assembly of claim 21, wherein the intermediate cable pull mechanism is disposed inside the trunk compartment and the remote cable pull mechanism is disposed outside the trunk compartment.

 23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The latch assembly of claim 9, wherein the intermediate cable pull mechanism comprises a housing having an open end and a planar portion attached to the cable within the housing.

25. (Previously Presented) The vehicle trunk assembly of claim 15, wherein the intermediate cable pull mechanism comprises a housing having an open end and a planar portion attached to the cable within the housing.

26. (New) A vehicle trunk assembly comprising:

a vehicle trunk lid that closes a vehicle trunk compartment;

a cable having a first cable end and a second cable end;

a remote cable pull mechanism connected to the first cable end;

a trunk latch that releasably retains the trunk lid in a latched condition, the trunk latch being connected to the second cable end, wherein movement of the first cable end causes movement of the second cable end to release the trunk latch; and

an intermediate cable pull mechanism disposed within the vehicle trunk compartment between the first and second ends, the intermediate cable pull mechanism having a manually-actuatable cable attachment, wherein manual actuation of the cable attachment by a person inside the trunk compartment causes movement of the second cable end to release the trunk latch.